

Fatal 3 - During maintenance project at a cement plant serious structural fault in walkway discovered.

WHAT HAPPENED

During a filter replacement project the cleaning of the bypass and surrounding area uncovered severe corrosion to support steelwork. One side of the supporting structure was corroded to a degree which could have resulted in a collapse of the walkway gantry.

Key Findings

- Ad hoc structural surveys ineffective for a complex cement site.
- Material spillages in contact with rainwater accelerate corrosion.
- Insufficient resources for proper housekeeping and cleaning activities.



LEARNING POINTS / ACTIONS TAKEN

- A detailed written scheme is being developed with the third-party structural engineers, ensuring all areas of the plant are inspected at the required frequency.
- Existing structures need to be deep cleaned, and a housekeeping planned maintenance check to be implemented.

LOCATION: CEMENT PLANT
ACTIVITY: MAINTENANCE & HOUSEKEEPING
SUB ACTIVITY: WALKWAYS

ALERT STATUS: Normal
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INCIDENT No: 04957